



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

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Hagerstown Region Division of Correction Prisons To Plant Thousands of Trees On Arbor Day, April 2

TOWSON, MD (March 28, 2008)---Maryland's three Division of Correction prisons on Roxbury Road will make a major contribution to Arbor Day 2008, when staff and inmates plant thousands of trees on April 2. It's part of Public Safety Secretary Gary Maynard's ambitious plan to plant one million trees in Maryland.

Inmates from Maryland Correctional Enterprises will start the day by planting 150 trees at Antietam Battlefield, site of the bloodiest single-day battle on American soil. This historic spot, revered by historians and preservationists alike, has been the scene of several other inmate work projects recently. There will be a brief ceremony beginning at 8 a.m. near the main entrance and the visitors' center.

Then, at 10 a.m., staff and inmates from the three prisons along Roxbury Road will hold a ceremony before planting trees at both Antietam Creek and the stone house administrative offices "on the square" next to MCI-H. This ceremony is accessible by driving through the main parking lot at MCI and turning right onto the employee parking lot road leading up the hill to the stone houses.

Invited guests for this event will include elected officials, as well as the Washington County Commissioners, who generously donated the mulch, and representatives from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, which generously provided a grant enabling the prisons to purchase 80 four- to six-foot-tall trees for the Antietam Creek planting.

The Division of Correction will also plant hundreds of seedlings on prison property at Roxbury, and will donate hundreds more trees to the towns of Hancock and Boonsboro.

This massive Arbor Day effort, never before undertaken, is a part of the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services attempt to broaden community improvement efforts for citizens in all regions of Maryland.

